SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NAMING HOSTS IN A DISTRIBUTED DATA
                    PROCESSING SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

    In a method for automatically naming hosts, a
cluster controller receives unique identifiers (UIDs)
from multiple hosts. In response to receiving the UIDs,
5 the cluster controller causes the multiple hosts to
produce ready signals. The cluster controller then
receives user input (e.g., an indication that a floppy
disk has been inserted into a floppy disk drive) from a
first host among the multiple hosts. In response to
10 receiving the user input from the first host, the cluster
controller associates a first host name with the UID for
the first host. The cluster controller then causes the
first host to produce a completion signal. The cluster
controller then receives user input from a second host
15 among the multiple hosts. The operations of receiving
replies from hosts, associating host names with UIDs, and
causing hosts to produce completion signals may be
repeated until each of the multiple hosts has been named.